

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A system for placing a vascular implant (10) comprising:

- a vessel dilation device (1) with an outer envelope (2) and a tapered end piece for introduction into a vessel, whereby said end piece consists of a nose (14) formed at the distal extremity of the outer envelope (2) and the dilation device (1) comprises means for opening the nose (14), consisting of at least two longitudinal slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) which divide the nose (14) into several segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) which can be opened out in order to open the nose (14);

- an implant (10) which is placed in the outer envelope (2), wherein the implant (10) includes an auto-expandable element (24) which expands in a radial direction and is ~~presses against~~ maintained by the internal wall of the outer envelope (2); and

- a means for translation of said implant (10) in relation to the outer envelope (2) such that the auto-expandable element (24) is maintained by the internal wall of the outer envelope (2), ~~in~~ and upon contact with internal wall nose (14) ~~in order,~~ the auto-expandable element (24) expands further in the radial direction to open out the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d).

2. (currently amended) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the means of translation include an inner sheath (3) mounted so as to slide in the outer envelope (2) and push the ~~expandable~~ auto-expandable element (24).

3. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 2 characterised in that:

- the implant (10) includes a second, hollow expandable element (25) and a hollow intermediate section (26) that is deformable by twisting;

- the second expandable element (25) presses against the internal wall of the inner sheath (3); and

- the inner sheath (3) is mounted so as to slide and rotate in the outer envelope (2).

4. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 2, further comprising:

- a grip (6) that is an integral part of the outer envelope (2).

5. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 4, further comprising:

- a grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3).

6. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 5 in characterised in that:

- the grip (7) on the inner sheath is located behind the grip (6) on the outer envelope (2) and includes a removable spacer (8) situated between said grips (6, 7) to maintain the space between said grips.

7. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the segments that can be deployed (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) are joined as required along the slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) when the nose (14) is closed.

8. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 7 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a temporary connector (17) by slot (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) between the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d).

9. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a central residual passage (18).

10. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1 characterised in that:

- the nose (14) includes a shape memory so that the nose (14) is closed as a default position when the means of opening are inactive.

11. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 3, further comprising:

- a plunger (4) mounted in such a way as to slide in the inner sheath (3) and can press against the free end of the second expandable element.

12. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 11, further comprising:

- a grip (12) that is an integral part of the plunger (4) located behind the grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3) and it also includes a removable spacer (9) placed between said grips (7, 12) to maintain them apart.

13. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 3, further comprising:

- means of adjusting (19, 20) the angle of the inner sheath (3).

14. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

- a central channel (27) along the line of the outer envelope (2) to allow a guide wire to be passed through.

15. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 3, further comprising:

- a grip (6) that is an integral part of the outer envelope (2).

16. (previously presented) The system according to Claim 2, further comprising:

- a grip (7) that is an integral part of the inner sheath (3).

17. (New) A system for placing a vascular implant (10) comprising:

- a vessel dilation device (1) having an outer envelope (2) with a distal extremity having a tapered end consisting of a nose (14) for introduction into a vessel,

- the nose (14) consisting of at least two longitudinal slots (16a, 16b, 16c, 16d) dividing the nose (14) into several segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d), the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) having freedom of movement so as to provide a way for opening the nose (14);

- an implant (10) being positioned in the outer envelope (2), the implant (10) including an auto-expandable element (24),

- the auto-expandable element (24) being expandable in a radial direction and maintained by the internal wall of the outer envelope (2); and

- a means for translation of said implant (10) in relation to the outer envelope (2), the means for translation comprising an inner sheath (3) which is mounted in the outer envelope (2) so as to slide within the outer envelope (2) and

push the auto-expandable element (24) along the internal wall of the outer envelope (2), wherein

upon contact with the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d) with freedom of movement, the auto-expandable element (24) expands further in the radial direction and opens out the segments (15a, 15b, 15c, 15d).